CLAIMS

- 1. A composition for delaying progression of prostatic tumor cells to an androgenindependent state, comprising an antisense oligonucleotide which inhibits expression of
 TRPM-2 by the tumor cells, whereby when prostatic tumor cells are treated with the
 composition the progression to androgen independence is delayed.
- 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to a region of TRPM-2 mRNA including the translation initiation or termination site.
- 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 4.
- 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 5.
- 5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 12.
- 6. A composition for enhancing the chemo- or radiation sensitivity of cancer cells in an individual suffering from a cancer that expresses TRPM-2 in amounts different from normal tissue of the same type, comprising a material effective to inhibit expression of TRPM-2 by cancer cells, whereby when the composition is administered the chemo- or radiation sensitivity of the cancer cells is enhanced.
- 7. The composition of claim 6, wherein the material is an antisense oligonucleotide.

- 8. The composition of claim 7, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to a region of TRPM-2 mRNA including the translation initiation or termination site.
- 9. The composition of claim 7, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 4.
- 10. The composition of claim 7, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 5.
- 11. The composition of claim 7, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 12.
- 12. The composition of any claim 1, further comprising a second antisense oligodeoxynucleotide which inhibits expression of an anti-apoptotic protein other than TRPM-2.
- 13. The composition of claim 12, wherein the second antisense oligodeoxynucleotide is antisense Bcl-2 oligodeoxynucleotide.
- 14. The composition of claim 12, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to a region of TRPM-2 mRNA including the translation initiation or termination site.
- 15. The composition of claim 14, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is modified to increase the stability of the ODN *in vivo*.
- 16. The composition of claim 12, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 4.

- 17. The composition of claim 12, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 5.
- 18. The composition of claim 12, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has the sequence given by SEQ ID No. 12.
- 19. An oligonucleotide consisting of the sequence set forth in Seq. ID No. 4.
- 20. An oligonucleotide consisting of the sequence set forth in Seq. ID No. 5.
- 21. An oligonucleotide consisting of the sequence set forth in Seq. ID No. 12.
- 22. A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

an antisense oligonucleotide which is complementary to TRPM-2 mRNA and which comprises a continuous sequence of bases as set forth in any of Seq. ID Nos 4,5 and 12 and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier suitable for human administration for providing the olignucleotide to a mammalian subject to reduce expression of TRPM-2.

- 23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is a lipid carrier.
- 24. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22, further comprising an additional antisense oligonucleotide binds specifically to a sequence other than TRPM-2 mRNA.

- 25. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24, wherein the additional antisense oligonucleotide binds specifically to a sequence selected from among Bcl-2, Bcl-1x and c-myc.
- 26. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, wherein the additional oligonucleotide consists of the sequence set forth in the Seq. ID No. 13.
- 27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 22, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is modified to increase the stability of the ODN *in vivo*.